REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	08 October 2003
Name of applicant/court:	The District Court at Manukau
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Red Lotus Flower
Other Known Title(s):	Optical disk Asian title -disk reference number JW-017
Director(s):	Not Stated in English
Producer(s):	Not Stated in English
Publisher:	Not Applicable
Author(s):	Not Applicable
Format:	VCD
Country of Origin:	Japan
Language(s):	Japanese with Chinese Subtitles

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Components of film originally examined:

Feature:	Red Lotus Flower	Running Time:	29.25
Other Components:	Notices (x2)	Running Time:	
		Total Running Time:	29.25

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The VCD entitled *Red Lotus Flower,* also known as *Optical disk Asian title - disk reference number JW-017,* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The publication comprises two notices and an animated feature which originates in Japan and is in Japanese with Chinese subtitles. The feature presents a story which includes depictions of female characters being kidnapped, raped and murdered by mythical monster creatures. The monsters and their actions are presented as being evil, and the story is one where good prevails over evil. However, the publication does focus in a salacious manner on these acts of sexual violence, presenting them in explicit detail. The publication therefore tends to promote and support the use of violence to compel females to submit to sexual conduct by presenting this material in a manner which is intended to titillate and arouse an audience.

The classification of the publication interferes with the freedom of expression, as outlined in s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, but this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications falling under s3(2) of The Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 are deemed to be objectionable. The classification is also a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression that reflects the concern of "a free and democratic society" to limit the availability of publications that tend to promote and support the use of violence to compel any person to submit to sexual conduct.

OFLC No: 301066